

What is claimed is:

1. A recording material feeding method for a color printer, said color printer having a feed roller pair for nipping and
5 feeding recording material, and plural print heads disposed along a feeding path for printing different colors respectively, said feed roller pair being constituted of a capstan roller and a pinch roller, said recording material feeding method comprising the step of:

10 determining an interval between said print heads as equal to a distance of a multiple of an integer multiplied by a circumferential length of said capstan roller.

2. A recording material feeding method as claimed in claim
15 1, further comprising the steps of:

applying front tension to said recording material respectively on the downstream side of each print head in a feeding direction of said recording material; and
arranging said feed roller pair on the upstream side of said
20 print heads in the feeding direction of said recording material.

3. A recording material feeding method as claimed in claim
2, further comprising the step of applying back tension on said recording material on the upstream side of said feed roller pair
25 in the feeding direction of said recording material.

4. A recording material feeding method as claimed in claim
3, wherein said recording material is a color thermal recording

material which is colorable in yellow, magenta and cyan in accordance with heating energy; and

said plural print heads are a yellow thermal head for developing yellow, a magenta thermal head for developing
5 magenta and a cyan thermal head for developing cyan.

5. A color printer comprising:

a feed roller pair, arranged inside a feeding path of a continuous recording material, for nipping and feeding said
10 recording material, said feed roller pair having a capstan roller and a pinch roller;

plural thermal heads, arranged on a downstream side of said feed roller pair, for heating said recording material in order to record one of the plural colors while feeding, and an interval
15 between said thermal heads being a distance of a multiple of an integer multiplied by a circumferential length of said capstan roller;

plural front tension roller pairs, arranged on a downstream side of respectively said thermal heads, for
20 applying front tension to said recording material; and

a back tension roller pair, arranged on an upstream side of said feed roller pair, for feeding said recording material while applying back tension to said recording material.

25 6. A color printer as claimed in claim 5, wherein the total of values of said front tension is equal to said back tension.

7. A color printer as claimed in claim 6, wherein said feed

roller pair is driven by a stepping motor, and said back tension roller pair and each front tension roller pair are driven by at least one DC motor.

5 8. A color printer as claimed in claim 7, wherein said recording material is a color thermal recording material which is colorable in yellow, magenta and cyan in accordance with heating energy; and

10 said plural thermal heads are a yellow, a magenta and a cyan thermal heads that develop yellow, magenta and cyan respectively.

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